

Avita Community Partners
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

DATE: September 27, 2023	TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: Avita Administrative Offices and Zoom	PRESIDING: Kent Woerner, Chair

Attendance

Barbara Bosanko	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Brenda Hardy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Kim Stephens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Angie Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Terry Hawkins	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Samantha Turner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Sharon Bucek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Rachel Mathis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Angela Whidby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Kathy Cooper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Bruce Palmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Carol Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Alton Fry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Penny Penn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Kent Woerner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Bo Garrison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Shanna Prather	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Alice Worthan	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Executive Team Member Attendance

Greg Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Lori Holbrook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Don Reimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Cathy Ganter	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Cindy Levi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Allan Harden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Hannah Quinn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

Agenda Items	Key Discussion Points/Outcomes/Decisions/Action Items
Call to Order	The Board Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Kent Woerner.
Determine Quorum	A quorum was present with 14 out of 18 members.
Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda made by Barbara Bosanko, and seconded by Kim Stephens, passed unanimously.
Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve the August 23, 2023 minutes by Barbara Bosanko, seconded by Kathy Cooper, passed unanimously.
Board Chair Report	Kent welcomed everyone. Shared an update on the opioid settlement and about the Health Georgia Grant that lasts for 3 years to help those with opioid issues.
CEO Report	<p>Cindy reviewed the following in her report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On August 22, Chelsee Nabritt and Sheree Ralston from the DBHDD Community Outreach Team came to visit Avita’s Behavioral Health Crisis Center. They went for a tour and asked many questions about the services we offer. Because they are part of the Public Relations Team for DBHDD, we are happy that they came to our facility which can help them better tell the story of the services provided by Georgia’s CSBs. • Avita held a graduation for 3 WTRS residents on August 24th. A special thanks to Patty from the Thrift Store, “Nothing Wasted” for providing refreshments! We wish these 3 women all the best as they begin their new lives. • Jeremy Merritt attended the Dawson County Family Connection/Mental Wellness Coalition “Family Fair.” In addition to a table with Avita services and swag, Jeremy ran two games for the children to win prizes. It was a great time where many in the community came out, had fun, and learned a lot about the various services of Avita in Dawson County. • On August 25th, Jeremy Merritt attended the S.A.F.E Community Resource Fair. There Jeremy was able to connect to several Union County agencies and give information to them on Avita services. • A Hall County Recovery event took place on August 31st in Roosevelt Square, Gainesville. Avita was well represented. WTRS Program participants attended along with many other recipients of Avita Services and Avita staff. The square was packed with people all evening. We talked to many people about Avita’s services and handed out 21 Naloxone kits. • The Georgia Gathering, an IDD Self-Advocate Conference, was held on September 7th – 8th at Unicoi State Park in Helen. Avita had a strong showing and participated in numerous projects. The Dream Weavers from Avita’s Habersham location were front and center during the opening and closing ceremonies. They facilitated a breakout session, and I facilitated one on interacting with your legislators. Denise Eller from Avita’s Habersham

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	<p>office was honored with the “Heart of Service Award.” Tracie Adams and Denise Eller were both recognized for their work as DSPs, honored nominees for the Dottie Adams DSP Award. Horace Leachman was recognized as an outstanding self-advocate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Toccoa office co-sponsored an Overdose Awareness Block Party with the Hartwell office. The event was hosted by the Grace Foundation, a women’s recovery facility in Martin. The women in this addiction recovery program are served by our Toccoa office so we were excited to be able to assist them with sponsorship. The event was held in Lavonia on the square. There were community partners, art/crafts, a water slide for kids and live music all involved in this event. • Blairsville IDD set up a puzzle table with donations from the Blairsville Kiwanis Club. Additionally, a great success story out of Blairsville too. Carol is new to residential, but not new to Avita. She lived with her mother for most of her 56 years. About six months ago her mother began to have health problems and started talking about Carol’s long-term care. So, Avita assisted her and Carol in finding an appropriate home and environment. Carol has been living in her new Avita host home for two months. She has adapted well to her mother’s declining health and all the concerns that go with it. She has adjusted well to her new home, the environment, and the living dynamics of the host family. In early September, she took a trip to Texas with her host provider and some peers. No doubt she will have more entertaining stories to talk and write about. It seems that Carol is getting to live her best life and enjoy her freedoms since branching out. • The Dawsonville IDD group went on a trip to the Career Connector and enjoyed a tour of the Career Center. They learned about the services provided by the center for the community. Another exciting trip was to the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta. They visited all the exhibits for a memorable experience. They then chose to have lunch at Panda Express to wrap up the trip. • Lavonia IDD was happy to volunteer with Christian foods ministry and volunteered at a Habitat for Humanity home. All our individuals were happy to help and left feeling that they really made a difference. • On August 25th, Commissioner Kevin Tanner kicked off the NAMI “Pathways to Hope” conference held at Gainesville High School. I was a panel presenter that evening as well. This was a 2-day conference and was very well attended by professionals, interested community members, families, and behavioral health peers. • Todd Wiley, a 9-year tenured DSP with Avita was recognized by DBHDD during DSP week. DBHDD highlighted the work of 2 DSPs from CSBs and Todd was one of them! The other one was Crystal Tookes from Aspire CSB. We are proud of the work done by Todd to improve the lives of those he serves on behalf of Avita. • DBHDD’s Commissioner, Kevin Tanner, spent the day in Hall County on September 11th. The morning was spent with Cathy Ganter and I at the Hall County Superintendent’s office discussing how we can better serve students in Hall County Schools. The afternoon was spent at the Hall County Jail talking with Avita Jail in-Reach staff Holley Buckhalter and Josh Bell about the new Jail In-Reach Program. • Gateway CSB hosted a psychiatry resident recruitment event at their office in Savannah the evening of September 21st. Ten psychiatry residents participated. I shared the beauty of northeast Georgia and the wonderful opportunities Avita has to offer in hopes of hiring a few of these energetic and enthusiastic Psychiatrists when they finish their training. • On Sept 18th, per our strategic plan for the year, I met with Commissioner Bradshaw of Towns County along with Avita’s Board Representative, Rachel Mathis. This brings us to 5 county presentations for the year and I am excited to get to the last 8 counties by year end. • Last month Nikki Passmore, Sabrina Parker, Gabriela Vilchis, Venezuela Boarders, Darci White, Todd Wiley, Gail Smith, Josue Hernandez, Jennifer Lopez, Jasmine Cummings and Logan Nicols were recognized for going above and beyond. We thank all these employees for her dedication to Avita and for living out its mission.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions were asked and answered of Cindy regarding the Hall County Jail In-Reach Pilot program about referrals and its origin.
Financial Update	<p>Greg Ball reviewed the following in his report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August saw a \$112,000 surplus. • Current year revenues are \$5.707 million. • Current year expenses are \$5.649 million. • Current surplus fiscal year to date is \$58,000 • Our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) continued to exceed the targets established by DBHDD: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cash on Hand is 85 days—well above the 30-day minimum ○ Current Ratio – 11:1 ○ Days of Covered Expenses – 81 days –well above the minimum of 60 days and the same as last month ○ Long Term Debt Ratio – .17:1 – well below the maximum of 2.5:1 and the same as last month
Announcements	Reminder to sign up for the CSB Conference at the end of the month.
Adjourn at 7:56 pm	Barbara Bosanko made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brenda Hardy, and they adjourned unanimously.

Kent Woerner

10/25/23

Presiding Officer Signature

Date Approved

Respectfully submitted,

Hariah Hutkowski

Hariah Hutkowski, Recording Clerk